



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **ICE AND CHAMBLEE PD ARREST 3 MS-13 GANG MEMBERS IN ATLANTA**

ATLANTA—Three MS-13 gang members were arrested here Friday by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) special agents and officers from the Chamblee Police Department (CPD).

Among the arrested was 23-year-old Eladio Vasquez-Vail, a citizen of Guatemala who entered the country illegally. Vasquez, who has a prior arrest for carrying a concealed weapon and is a possible suspect in the shooting of a rival gang member, is being held by ICE without bond.

Also arrested were Guatemalan citizens Walter Ramirez-Ramirez, 20, and 21-year-old Obispo Vasquez. Both were in possession of false resident alien cards at the time of their arrests and have been charged with forgery by the Chamblee Police Department.

“Gang members who hurt and terrorize our communities will be found and arrested,” said Kenneth A. Smith, special agent-in-charge in Atlanta. “These arrests continue to restore integrity to our nation’s immigration system, while keeping our community safe.”

Ramirez and Obispo Vasquez will be taken into ICE custody and placed into removal proceedings upon the resolution of their state charges.

These arrests are the latest enforcement actions under Operation Community Shield, and ICE anti-gang initiative launched in February to disrupt, dismantle and assist in criminal prosecution of violent gangs by employing the full range of authorities available to ICE. The initial target of Operation Community Shield was MS-13, which is the largest and most violent street gang in the country.

In May 2005, ICE expanded Operation Community Shield to include all criminal street gangs with foreign-born members. With the launch of this second phase, ICE's Operation Community shield aims to ensure that gang members have no safe haven in our nation's communities.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21<sup>st</sup> century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*